

FEDERAL PERSONNEL COUNCIL
UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
1626 K Street, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

STATINTL

FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

April 10, 1952

TO: Dr. F. M. Davenport, Chairman
Federal Personnel Council

FROM: Admiral W. McL. Hague, Chairman
Employment Committee

SUBJECT: Whitten Amendment and Current
Bills Relating Thereto

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IT IS RECOMMENDED that the Federal Personnel Council express its view that experience under the Whitten Amendment and anticipated under proposed changes in that Amendment clearly shows that attempts to implement legislative policy by detailed statutory regulation are unworkable, costly, and ineffective. THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL BELIEVES:

1. That the Whitten Amendment should be repealed but that its desirable purposes would be best achieved by Civil Service Commission regulation along the lines stated in its letter (attached) to Senator Johnston on March 31, 1952.
2. That, if Congress still concludes that some legislation is essential, it should provide simply the following:
 - (a) That the Civil Service Commission and heads of departments, agencies, and corporations make full use of their authority to require that personnel actions be made on a temporary or indefinite basis in order to prevent increases in the number of permanent personnel of the Federal Government above the number existing on September 1, 1950.
 - (b) That the Civil Service Commission shall facilitate the transfer of Federal employees from non-defense to defense activities and encourage the retention of employees in defense activities, and shall provide a system of re-employment rights for permanent employees in the activities from which such employees are transferred.

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- (c) (1) That the Civil Service Commission shall make full use of its authority to prevent excessively rapid promotions in the competitive civil service and to require correction of improper allocations to higher grades of positions subject to the Classification Act of 1949, as amended; (2) That the specific restrictions on promotions contained in Subsection (c) of Section 1310 of the 1952 Supplemental Appropriations Act not be reenacted.
 - (d) That the requirement for a review of the necessity and proper allocation of certain positions in Subsection (d) be continued.
3. That the Council's previous stand expressed in the reports on proposed Civil Service Reserve appointments dated February 14 and March 27, 1952 be reiterated. This stand contained the proposal that new career appointments without limitation in tenure not be made during the operation of the Reserve type of appointment except as tenure restrictions on the latter may be removed.

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